



RECOGNITION OF OUTSTANDING PUBLIC SAFETY DRONE PROGRAM

Name of Department/Agency: North Texas Public Safety Unmanned Response Team (NTXPSURT)

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How long program in operation? 6 years

How many aircraft in program? 50

What types of aircraft in fleet? DJI, Autel, Parrot, Quantix

How many remote pilots in program? 59

Do you operate with COA, Part 107 or both? If outside the U.S., tell what regulations you operate under. Both

How has your drone program been innovative for your department?

The North Texas Public Safety Unmanned Response Team (NTXPSURT) is a regional public safety UAS program that provides trained UAS operators for emergencies and disasters across the Dallas/ Fort Worth region through mutual aid. The team consists of over 26 public safety agencies around the area. We provide training and assist agencies with starting their own UAS programs. We are involved with hardware and software equipment testing. We educate local jurisdiction leadership about the UAS industry and provide resources and information so they understand the rules and regulations for hobbyists. Members of the State of Texas HB2340 Study Group to provide recommendations to the state legislative body about the creation of a statewide USA response team to deploy in future state emergencies and disasters.

How has your drone program enhanced safety for your department?

The regional program had been able to support many emergency operations throughout the years to include tornado damage assessments, police/ fire operations, the 2019 Dallas crane, and tornado damage assessments, and missing person searches. We have provided a capability that provides additional situational awareness to develop a common operating picture.

How has your drone program improved operational effectiveness?

The regional program allows flexibility to support other agencies in the area by filling a capabilities gap. We have provided support to agencies that do not have UAS capabilities. Once they recognized the value a UAS can bring to the operations, they, in turn, have created their own UAS program. There are team members across the metroplex, and this makes responding quickly to request faster.

URL to Any News Related Articles, Successes or Videos

<https://www.nctcog.org/ep/workinggroups/unmanned-aerial-systems-uas-1/public-safety-uas-response-team-psurt>

<https://insideunmannedsystems.com/texas-prepares-state-wide-public-safety-unmanned-emergency-response-standard/>

<https://www.firehouse.com/home/contact/21131906/wayne-baker>